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PATENT

JUN 0 6 2008

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Willem Ferdinand Nieuwenhuizen et al.

10/592,994 Application No. :

: March 23, 2007 Filed

8473 Confirmation No. :

For

USE OF SPHINGOLIPIDS IN THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS, INSULIN RESISTANCE AND METABOLIC SYNDROME

Timothy P. Thomas

Examiner Attorney's Docket : VER-209XX

TC Art Unit: 1614

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to Examiner Timothy P. Thomas, TC Art Unit 1614, Fax No. (571) 273 8300, on \_

Gøgnebin III Registration No. 25,467 Attorney for Applicant(s)

RESPONSE

Via Facsimile Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action subject to Restriction Requirement dated March 27, 2008, Applicants elect for present prosecution the claims of Group IV, Claims 9-10, drawn to a food item with enhanced levels of a sphingolipid. Applicants also

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elect under option (i-a) Phytosphingosine as a single sphingolipid. This election is with traverse because examination of all of the claims is not seen as imposing an undue burden on the Examiner.

Applicants reserve all rights to the unelected claims for future prosecution but hereby authorize the Examiner to cancel them as he deems necessary for the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLEM FERDINAND NIEUWENHUIZEN ET AL.

Βv

Registration No. 35467
Attorney for Applicant(s)

WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN, GAGNEBIN & LEBOVICI LLP Ten Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109

Telephone: (617) 542-2290 Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

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